Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 1, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the known methods hydraulic resistance of shock absorbers is regulated by means of regulating devices with fixed positions and external switching device. For example, in Bilstein shock absorbers rigidity is regulated by means of rotation of a roller which passes through a rod and either opens or closes piston capacity in one or other direction having fixed rigidity positions. The disadvantage of the known methods is that the regulating device can be set only **a** certain rigidity level which does not change during the operation of a shock absorber and, the consequences are:

- low operational reliability of a motor vehicle during the travel thereof in washboard road constructions;
- shaking, shocks and discomfort at mild and high speeds;
- instability and poor motor vehicle handling in the roads with high frequency of vibrations.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 2, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 1 is a general view of a shock absorber design ~~which allows~~ embodying the present method. Figure 2 is a scaled-up view of **a** design of a unit with the regulating device.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 3, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

At compression stroke the ~~piston~~ **rod** 1 of the shock absorber moves down and the ear 19 moves up. In this connection hydraulic fluid moves from the blind side 17 to the rod end 18 through the channel 6 inside the piston 5 overcoming light resistance of the washer 7. An amount of the hydraulic fluid is displaced by the displacement volume of the shock absorber rod from the blind side through the channels 13 into the external tank 3 compressing gas 20 contained herein.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 3, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

At decompression of the shock absorber (rebound stroke) the rod 1 of the shock absorber moves up and the ear 19 moves down. At that the channels 6 inside the piston 5 are lapped by the spring-loaded washer 7. The fluid flows through the metering opening 8 into the channel 9 inside the rod 1 of the shock absorber and flows to the regulating piston 10 where it encounters strong resistance flowing through the small open flow area – clearance h between internal walls of the regulating piston 10 and the regulating rod 11, then it flows through the channels 12 of the cylinder 16 into the blind side 17. An amount of the fluid is displaced by the gas 20 and flows through the channels 13 from the external tank 3 into the blind side 17. When load sharply increases the hydraulic fluid produces pressure over the regulating piston 10 which overcomes pressure of the spring 14 and causes the regulating piston 10 to move down. At that the regulating rod 11 moves deeper inside the regulating piston 10 thus increasing ~~clearance~~ **overlap** between them and, consequently, decreasing capacity of the open flow area. At that the resistance to the fluid flow increases which results in increasing resistance of the shock absorber. Thus, the regulation of the hydraulic resistance of a shock absorber during the operation thereof occurs.